

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic device controlling apparatus comprising:

communicating means for communicating with each of a plurality of electronic devices;

detecting means for detecting movement of a user using a content at one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices at a position corresponding to the one electronic device;

storing means for storing information indicating a reproduction position of said content being used at said one electronic device when said detecting means detects movement of said user;

destination detecting means for detecting that said user has moved to a position corresponding to one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices; and

reproduction controlling means for controlling an electronic device for reproducing said content and the electronic device at a destination by said communicating means to reproduce said content from a position corresponding to said information indicating the reproduction position stored by said storing means and allow said content to be used at the electronic device at

said destination when said destination detecting means detects that said user has moved.

2. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said content is a broadcast signal, and the electronic device for reproducing said content records said content received and selected onto a recording medium and reproduces said content recorded on said recording medium in parallel with the recording processing, and when said detecting means detects movement of said user, the electronic device continues recording said content onto said recording medium without erasing an un-reproduced part of said content;

said storing means stores, as said information, indicating the reproduction position, information indicating a position corresponding to a reading position on said recording medium, on which said content is recorded, at a point in time when said detecting means detects the movement of said user; and

said reproduction controlling means makes said content reproduced from the position on said recording medium on the basis of said information indicating the reproduction position stored by said storing means.

3. The electronic device controlling apparatus as

claimed in claim 1,

wherein said detecting means detects occurrence of movement of said user when an instruction for pausing reproduction of said content being used at said one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices is given.

4. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising reading means for reading information from a memory unit on which identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said detecting means detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of said identifying information for said user, said information being read from the memory unit of said user by said reading means.

5. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising receiving means for receiving identifying information transmitted from a memory unit on which said identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said detecting means detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of said identifying information received from the memory unit of said user by

said receiving means.

6. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said detecting means detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of identifying information for said user when said identifying information is transmitted from a remote control device of one of said electronic device controlling apparatus and said plurality of electronic devices.

7. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising reading means for reading information from a memory unit on which identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said destination detecting means detects whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of said identifying information read from said memory unit of said user by said reading means.

8. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising receiving means for receiving identifying information for said user, said identifying information being transmitted from a memory unit on which said identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said destination detecting means detects whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of said identifying information received from said memory unit of said user by said receiving means.

9. The electronic device controlling apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said destination detecting means detects whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of identifying information for said user when said identifying information is transmitted from a remote control device of one of said electronic device controlling apparatus and said plurality of electronic devices.

10. An electronic device controlling method for controlling a plurality of electronic devices via an electronic device controlling apparatus capable of communicating with each of said plurality of electronic devices, said electronic device controlling method comprising:

in said electronic device controlling apparatus,  
a detecting step for detecting movement of a user using a content at one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices at a position corresponding to the one electronic device;

a storing step for storing information indicating a reproduction position of said content being used at said one electronic device when said detecting step detects movement of said user;

a destination detecting step for detecting that said user has moved to a position corresponding to one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices; and

a reproduction controlling step for controlling an electronic device for reproducing said content and the electronic device at a destination by said communicating means to reproduce said content from a position corresponding to said information indicating the reproduction position stored at said storing step and allow said content to be used at the electronic device at said destination when said destination detecting step detects that said user has moved.

11. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said content is a broadcast signal, and the electronic device for reproducing said content records said content received and selected onto a recording medium and reproduces said content recorded on said recording medium in parallel with the recording

processing, and when said detecting step detects movement of said user, the electronic device continues recording said content onto said recording medium without erasing an un-reproduced part of said content;

said storing step stores, as said information indicating the reproduction position, information indicating a position corresponding to a reading position on said recording medium, on which said content is recorded, at a point in time when said detecting step detects the movement of said user; and

said reproduction controlling step makes said content reproduced from the position on said recording medium on the basis of said information indicating the reproduction position stored at said storing step.

12. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said detecting step detects occurrence of movement of said user when an instruction for pausing reproduction of said content being used at said one electronic device of said plurality of electronic devices is given.

13. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising, in said electronic device controlling apparatus, a reading step

for reading information from a memory unit on which identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said detecting step detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of said identifying information for said user, said information being read from the memory unit of said user at said reading step.

14. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising, in said electronic device controlling apparatus, a receiving step for receiving identifying information transmitted from a memory unit on which said identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said detecting step detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of said identifying information received from the memory unit of said user at said receiving step.

15. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said detecting step detects occurrence of movement of said user on the basis of identifying information for said user when said identifying information is transmitted from a remote control device



of one of said electronic device controlling apparatus and said plurality of electronic devices.

16. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a reading step for reading information from a memory unit on which identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said destination detecting step detects whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of said identifying information read from said memory unit of said user at said reading step.

17. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a receiving step for receiving identifying information for said user, said identifying information being transmitted from a memory unit on which said identifying information for said user is recorded and which unit is possessed by said user,

wherein said destination detecting step detects whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of said identifying information received from said memory unit of said user at said receiving step.

18. The electronic device controlling method as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said destination detecting step detects

whether said user has moved to a destination on the basis of identifying information for said user when said identifying information is transmitted from a remote control device of one of said electronic device controlling apparatus and said plurality of electronic devices.

19. A device controlling apparatus comprising:  
communicating means for communicating with each of a plurality of electronic devices;

first detecting means for detecting a state of a user using a content reproduced at a first electronic device;

second detecting means for detecting a change in the state of said user detected by said first detecting means, from said first electronic device to a second electronic device;

storing means for storing, when said second detecting means detects said change in the state of said user, an indication of a reproduction position of said content being used at said first electronic device; and

controlling means for controlling said first electronic device and said second electronic device by said communicating means, to reproduce said content from a position corresponding to said indication of the

reproduction position stored in said storing means at said second electronic device.

20. A device controlling apparatus comprising:  
communication means for communicating with a plurality of electronic terminals;

state detection means for detecting a state of a user using a content at a first electronic terminal;

state change detection means for detecting a state change from said first terminal to a second terminal;

storage means for storing a reproduction position of said content being used at said first terminal, when said state change detection means detects said state change; and

control means for controlling said first electronic terminal and said second electronic terminal, to use said content at said second electronic terminal from said reproduction position of said content stored in said storage means.

21. A device controlling method comprising:  
a communicating step for communicating with each of a plurality of electronic devices;

a first detecting step for detecting a state of a user using a content reproduced at a first electronic device;

a second detecting step for detecting a change in the state of said user detected at said first detecting step, from said first electronic device to a second electronic device;

a storing step for storing in storage means, when said change in the state of said user is detected, an indication of a reproduction position of said content being used at said first electronic device; and

a controlling step for controlling said first electronic device and said second electronic device by communicating means, to reproduce said content from a position corresponding to said indication of the reproduction position stored in said storage means at said second electronic device.

22. A device controlling method comprising:

a communication step for communicating with a plurality of electronic terminals;

a state detection step for detecting a state of a user using a content at a first electronic terminal;

a state change detection step for detecting a state change from said first terminal to a second terminal;

a storing step for storing a reproduction position of said content being used at said first terminal in storage means, when said state change is detected; and

a control step for controlling said first electronic terminal and said second electronic terminal, to use said content at said second electronic terminal from said reproduction position of said content stored in said storage means.